

Tuesday in Holy Week

1st Reading Isaiah 49: 1–7

Psalm 71: 1–14

2nd Reading 1 Corinthians 1: 18–31

The Gospel John 12: 20–36

[http://bible.oremus.org/?](http://bible.oremus.org/?show_adj=no&passages=%0AIsaiah%2049:%201-7%0Acw%20Psalm%2071:%201-14%0A1%20Corinthians%201:%2018-31%0AJohn%2012:%2020-36)

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Collects, and Post Communion prayer are the same as for Monday

Prayers

O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life: Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ, that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honour of your Name. Amen

O God, you manifest in your servants the signs of your presence: Send forth upon us the Spirit of love, that in companionship with one another your abounding grace may increase among us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Lord God,
The message of the cross is difficult to take.
How can death give way to life? How can weakness be strength?
Yet your word says that Jesus, being God,
Took on human flesh
And suffered the worst kind of death.
How can this be?
This message is indeed difficult to take.
But your foolishness is wiser than our wisdom.
Your weakness is greater than our strength.
Help us to know that none of us can boast before you.

It is only in Christ Jesus that we can boast.
In his name, we ask you to help our unbelief.
That we may love you, and walk in the way Jesus taught us.
In his name,
Amen.

Meditation

Reading: Mark 11:15-19

How many Sundays have we sung, "... as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end"?

At the beginning, Jesus, your parents offered doves bought in the temple as a sign of their devotion and they dedicated you to God. It was their prayer. Now doves are the signal of trafficking in holy things for selfish gain.

Faith is turned into a business.

Devotion becomes the occasion for prostitution
and the temple has become a spiritual brothel.

Is it because you have become an adult — the anointed One
with God in your eyes and you shine like the light in God's house?

You say, "My house."

You say, "My house shall be."

You say, "My house shall be called."

You say, "My house shall be called a house of prayer."

You say, "My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations."

You say, "but you ... but you have made it a den of robbers."

The "but" speaks truth leading to doom.

And you say it anyway.

Like some fierce force of reckoning the confrontation comes.

Like some strange mercy,

you upset our grotesque compromise with self,

our easy complicity with turning the holy to whoring,

our complacency about marketing the means of grace.

Do the doves go free on this day when you become the target of the lynch
mob? What does it mean for us to follow you, today?

Let your courage and honesty live in us this Holy Tuesday.

Let your passion for the heart of prayer stir in us this Holy Tuesday.

Let your yearning for the prayer of all nations

move us beyond our narrow nationalisms

of me and mine,

of cashing in on others poverty and misery,

of ...

Let your will to cleanse away the merchandizing of salvation
leave in us only
a simple silence,
a centered stillness,
an eternal moment of peace.
Live in your temple, Jesus, this Holy Tuesday
and let the doves go free.

Live in a time of silence, even if only for a minute.

Suggested Hymns

1st Reading Isaiah 49: 1–7

685* Blessed be the God of Israel
691* Faithful vigil ended
481* God is working his purpose out as year succeeds to year
125* Hail to the Lord's anointed
192 [How brightly beams the morning star]
706* O bless the God of Israel
595* Safe in the shadow of the Lord

Psalm 71: 1–14

Ms* A city strong we claim as ours
643* Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart
459* For all the saints who from their labours rest (vv. 1–3)
668* God is our fortress and our rock
620 O Lord, hear my prayer
557* Rock of ages, cleft for me
595* Safe in the shadow of the Lord

2nd Reading 1 Corinthians 1: 18–31

643* Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart
646* Glorious things of thee are spoken
225 In the cross of Christ I glory
698* Jesus, Saviour of the world
671 Jesus, thy blood and righteousness
484* Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
232 Nature with open volume stands
241* Sing, my tongue, the glorious battle
600 The wise may bring their learning
248* We sing the praise of him who died

247* When I survey the wondrous cross

The Gospel John 12: 20–36

348 Father, we love you, we worship and adore you

668* God is our fortress and our rock

43* [Holy is the seed–time, when the buried grain]

484* Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim

227* Man of sorrows! What a name

278 Now the green blade rises from the buried grain (omit v.3)

237* O my Saviour, lifted

241* Sing, my tongue, the glorious battle

473 [Síormoladh is glóir duit, a Athair shíorai]

[(All glory and praise to you, Father, above)]

490* The Spirit lives to set us free